

Message Text

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SUBJECT: EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING COPENHAGEN, APRIL 7-8
EUROPEAN FOUNDATION

REF: COPENHAGEN 2332

DURING READ-OUT FOLLOWING EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING, DANES GAVE US
FULL TEXT ON EUROPEAN FOUNDATION:
QUOTE

EUROPEAN FOUNDATION

I. LEGAL BASE

1. THE FOUNDATION WILL BE SET UP BY MEANS OF AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES
MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL. IN ORDER THAT THE FOUNDATION MAY COME
INTO OPERATION WITHOUT DELAY, THE REPRESENTATIVES WILL ENSURE THAT
PROVISIONS WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE ACTION ON THE PART OF NATIONAL
PARLIAMENTS ENTER INTO FORCE IMMEDIATELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCE-
DURES TO BE DETERMINED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES THEMSELVES.

II. SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

2. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE FOUNDATION IS TO IMPROVE MUTUAL UNDER-
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STANDING AMONG THE PEOPLES OF THE COMMUNITY, TO PROMOTE A BETTER
UNDERSTANDING OF THE EUROPEAN CULTURAL HERITAGE IN ITS RICH DEIVER-
SITY AND ONENESS AND TO FURTHER A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF EURO-
PEAN INTEGRATION.

3. THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FOUNDATION WILL BE COMPLEMENTARY TO THOSE
OF OTHER INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN THE SAME AREA
AT NATIONAL, BILATERAL OR INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, AND TO COMMUNITY

PROGRAMMES. THE FOUNDATION WILL ACT AS A CATALYST FOR SCHEMES UNDERTAKEN, AND AT THE SAME TIME WILL RESPECT THE AUTONOMY OF THE EXISTING INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS AND TAKE CONSTANT CARE TO AVOID DUPLICATION.

THE FOUNDATION'S ACTIVITIES WILL IN PRINCIPLE BE INDIRECT: IT WILL GUIDE AND STIMULATE PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE OTHER INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS, IF NECESSARY BY MAKING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION.

THE FOUNDATION WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN STARTING NEW DIRECT PROJECTS IN LINE WITH ITS OBJECTIVES.

4. THE FOUNDATION WILL DEVELOP THE ACTIVITIES NECESSARY TO ATTAIN ITS OBJECTIVES, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IN A TRANS-NATIONAL CONTEXT, PAYING PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

TO THIS END THE FOUNDATION WILL DRAW UP ITS PROGRAMME.

II. STRUCTURES

5. IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT ITS TASK, THE FOUNDATION SHOULD HAVE MAXIMUM INDEPENDENCE, WHICH SHOULD BE GUARANTEED BY ITS STRUCTURE AND ITS CONSTITUENT ACT. AS PART OF ITS ADMINISTRATIVE AUTONOMY, IT SHOULD HAVE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY, WHILE ENSURING THE BALANCED ADMINISTRATION OF THE RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE TO IT.

6. THE STRUCTURES OF THE FOUNDATION SHOULD BE LIGHT AND ITS ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS MODEST.

7. THE FOUNDATION'S AUTHORITIES WILL BE THE BOARD OF THE FOUNDATION AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THEY WILL BE ASSISTED BY A SECRETARY-GENERAL.

8. THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WILL BE CHOSEN FROM AMONG HIGH-LEVEL UNCLASSIFIED

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PERSONALITIES ON THE BASIS OF THEIR COMPETENCE AND EXPERIENCE.

THEY WILL BE APPOINTED FROM AMONG COMMUNITY NATIONALS IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PROCEDURE TO BE DETERMINED:

I) BY THE COUNCIL ON A PROPOSAL FROM THE COMMISSION AFTER CONSULTING THE ASSEMBLY,

II) BY THE MEMBER STATES,

III) BY CO-OPTION, IN PARTICULAR FROM AMONG THE HEADS OF INSTITUTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN THE SAME AREAS.

THEY WILL BE COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.

9. THE BOARD WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE FOUNDATION. IT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE FOUNDATION. IT WILL HAVE TO TAKE THE MAIN DECISIONS AND DRAW UP PROGRAMMES WHICH WILL ESTABLISH THE ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR THE FOUNDATION'S ACTIVITIES. IT WILL MEET AT LEAST TWICE A YEAR. IT WILL HAVE TO APPOINT FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS ITS CHAIRMAN AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR SEEING THAT THE PROGRAMME IS CARRIED OUT. THE CHAIRMAN WILL PRESIDE OVER THE BOARD AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FOUNDATION.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DIRECTING THE FOUNDATION'S DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DIRECTIVES ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF THE FOUNDATION AND THE EXECUTIVE COMM-

ITTEE. HE WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD.

10. THE FOUNDATION'S CONSTITUENT ACT WILL HAVE TO LAY DOWN THE NUMBER OF BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THEIR TERM OF OFFICE.

THE SEAT OF THE FOUNDATION WILL BE PARIS.

IV. INITIAL ENDOWMENT AND ANNUAL RESOURCES

11. AN ADEQUATE INITIAL ENDOWMENT WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE FOUNDATION FROM THE COMMUNITY BUDGET SO AS TO PERMIT THE FOUNDATION TO PURSUE ITS ACTIVITIES IN CONFORMITY WITH THE OBJECTIVES SET OUT IN THE CONSTITUENT ACT OVER A REASONABLE PERIOD OF YEARS. ADDITIONAL ENDOWMENTS MAY BE ENVISAGED AT A LATER STAGE.

THE FOUNDATION COULD ALSO RECEIVE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ORIGIN.

12. IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS, A CLAUSE IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSTITUENT ACT COULD PROVIDE THAT EACH MEMBER STATE WILL GRANT PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FOUNDATION TREATMENT AS REGARDS NATIONAL TAXES WHICH IS A LEAST AS FAVOURABLE AS THAT AFFORDED COMPARABLE ORGANIZATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS.

13. WHATEVER THE NATURE OF THE CONSTITUENT ACT, THE FOUNDATION'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT MUST BE SUBJECT TO AN AUDIT.

ADDENDUM TO EUROPEAN FOUNDATION

DECLARATION

WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ITS INDEPENDENCE, THE EUROPEAN FOUNDATION WILL COLLABORATE AS IS APPROPRIATE WITH THE EUROPEAN CULTURAL FOUNDATION IN AMSTERDAM AND OTHER SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS WHOSE ACTIVITIES ARE PARALLEL OR CONVERGING WITH ITS OBJECTIVES. APPROPRIATE COLLABORATION WILL ALSO BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN FOUNDATION AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE.

UNQUOTE

COMMENT: DANES SAID THERE WAS UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISHMENT OF FOUNDATION, WHICH WAS FRENCH SUGGESTION. THERE WAS NO OBJECTION TO ITS BEING SITUATED IN PARIS. THE FINAL DECLARATION WAS ADDED IN ORDER TO MEET OBJECTIVES FROM OTHER MEMBERS WHO THOUGHT THESE MIGHT OVERLAP WITH OTHER EUROPEAN CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS.

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